

Rule 53(b) (37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b))
**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, and

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

PNEUMATIC RELEASE MECHANISM FROM A PATIENT CONTACTING ARTICLE

the specification of which (Check applicable Box(es)):

☒ is attached hereto,

☐ was filed on: _____

as U.S. Appln. No.: _____

☐ was filed as PCT International Application No. PCT/ _____

on _____

☐ was amended on: _____

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate filed by me or my assignee disclosing the subject matter claimed in this application and having a filing date (1) before that of the application on which priority is claimed, or (2) if no priority claimed, before the filing date of this application.

Prior Foreign Application(s)		Filed (MM/DD/YY)	Date First Laid Open or Published	Dated Patented or Granted	Priority Claimed	
Number(s)	Country				Yes	No
					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YY)
60/224,243	08/10/00

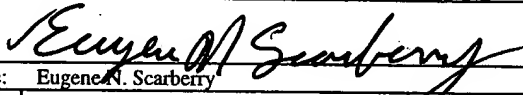

I hereby claim domestic priority benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119/120/365 of the indicated United States applications listed below and PCT international applications listed above or below and, if this is a continuation-in-part (CIP) application, insofar as the subject matter disclosed and claimed in this application is in addition to that disclosed in such prior applications, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of each such prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Number	Filing Date (MM/DD/YY)	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

And I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agents(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith: Michael W. Haas, Reg. No. 35,174

Address all correspondence to: Michael W. Haas, Intellectual Property Counsel, RESPIRONICS, Inc., 1501 Ardmore Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15221

(1) Inventor's Signature: 	Date:  7/31/2001
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Residence: City: Trafford State: Pennsylvania	Country: U.S.A.
Post Office Address: 208 Terrace Court Road, Trafford, Pennsylvania, 15085	

(2) Inventor's Signature:	Date:
Full Name:	Citizenship:
Residence: City: State:	Country:
Post Office Address:	

☐ Additional inventors are being named on the supplemental additional inventor(s) sheet(s) RI-116-2 attached hereto)

PATENT AND TRADEMARK CASES - RULES OF PRACTICE
37 C.F.R. 1.56(a) & (b): DUTY OF DISCLOSURE

(a)...Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the [Patent and Trademark] Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability...(b) information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative and (1) It also establishes by itself, or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim or (2) refers, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in: (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability

PATENT LAWS

35 USC §102. Conditions for patentability; novelty and loss of right to patent

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless--

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent or
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of the application for patent in the United States, or
- (c) he has abandoned the invention, or
- (d) the invention was first patented or caused to be patented, or was the subject of an inventor's certificate, by the applicant or his legal representatives or assigns in a foreign country prior to the date of the application for patent in this country on an application for patent or inventor's certificate filed more than twelve months* before the filing of the application in the United States, or
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or
- (f) he did not himself invent the subject matter sought to be patented, or
- (g) before the applicant's invention thereof the invention was made in this country by another who had not abandoned, suppressed, or concealed it. In determining priority of invention there shall be considered not only the respective dates of conception and reduction to practice of the invention, but also the reasonable diligence of one who was first to conceive and last to reduce to practice, from a time prior to conception by the other.

35 USC §103. Condition for patentability; non-obvious subject matter

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made. Subject matter developed by another person, which qualified as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person

35 USC § 112. Specification (Applicable Portion)

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctively claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

* Six months for Design Applications (35 U.S.C. 172).